## HARLEM FRIENDSHIP HOUSE NEWS

Without Interracial Justice



Social Justice Will Fail

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### We Receive Papal Blessing

SECRETARIAT OF STATE OF HIS HOLINESS

VATICAN CITY May 23, 1947

Dear Baroness de Hueck,

It is my pleasing duty to acknowledge the copy of "FRIENDSHIP HOUSE" which you so thoughtfully forwarded to the Holy Father as a token of your homage

The Holy Father, deeply grateful for this most interesting volume, now bids me convey to you the expression of His thanks and His appreciation of your filial gesture in placing it in His hands.

His Holiness would also have me assure you of His paternal benevolence and solicitude in token of which He most cordially bestows upon you and upon your col'aborators at "FRIENDSHIP HOUSE" His special Apostolic Blessing.

Gladly do I avail of this happy occasion to express to you the sentiments of my esteem and with kind personal regards, I remain,

Very devotedly in Christ, C. B. MONTINI, Subst.

### Looking at Jews

By Melita Rodeck

I wonder what you see when you look at the face of your Jewish friend? We try to find Christ in our neighbor and to recognize Him in the least of our brethren. In the case of your Jewish friend this should be easier than in any other, for he is a brother of the historical Christ.

Do you remember that the ancestor King David, the Holy Face was a Jewish Face; shepherd boy from Bethlehem that the Son of God, wishing to whom God gave the power to be one of us, chose a Jewish maiden to be His Mother? His desire was to be the glory of His people Israel. He shared their lives, walked their streets, sat at their tables, taught in their synagogues and healed their sick.

Long before, the Jewish people had been chosen as an instrument to bring God to humanity and thus humanity to God. The people of Israel was the channel through which flowed the mainstream of God's revelation until this revelation culminated in Godmade-Flesh.

When we look at the face of our Jewish friend, we remember that our Christian life is built apon the foundation laid Old Testament. To mention only a few of those who pre-

Abraham, the Father of our Faith as the Church calls him, was always ready to obey God's call. He knew the joy born to him in his old age and the joy of Easter when, willing to sacrifice his only son, he received him restored by the mercy of God.

The Psalms Then there is Christ's great

Have you answered our begging letter yet? We want to take the children to Maryknoll and the bus check is being bounced at the bank. Can you help us? to whom God gave the power to sing. The Church prays his pşalms and will offer them to the heavenly Father to the end of time.

says of St. Anne that she beheld the law of human generation pause before her as it they rejected the Messias, is arrived at the threshold of this a proof that God has re-God. Of this marriage was jected His people? born the Immaculate Virgin and God Himself became Grandson to Joachim and

Do you ever think of the many Jews who received Christ when He finally came? The Apostles, disciples and holy women? Just recall for by saints of the Old Law, for a moment Nicodemus, a Phar-isee holding high office, a ruler of the Jews. Moved to the depth of his soul by the signs and wonders of Our Lord, he came to Jesus seek-

Our Lord spoke to him of theof Christmas when Isaac was new life in the Holy Spirit, but still he did not reject the Light. On Good Friday Nico-demus did not withdraw, but brought spices, tokens of his Southern States. The journey devotion and love. He helped was a tour by a group of Joseph of Arimathea take Negro and Whites which the Cross and carry Him to at several points TOGETHER.

## Miscegenation and Catholics



ahead of the crowd and His host for the day. With a heart become generous by the gave half of his possessions to the poor, and making up for past, offered to restore fourfold whatever damage he might have done.

**Jewish Saints** 

There are many more Jewand crowned in St. Joachim then believe that so much the quality of the parent indisays of St. Anne that she between the parent indisays of St. Anne th the Jewish people? The leaders of Israel sinned when they rejected the Messias, is why lament and bewail the

Saint Paul tells us other-rise: "The Jews are most (Continued on page 6)

By ANN HARRIGAN

In America the term miscegenation commonly means interbreeding between Negro and white. In a wider sense it means inter-breeding between any so-called races of whatever kind. As Catholics we should always keep in mind that both anthropology and the Church teach that there is only one human race, all the members of which are descended from a common ancestor. In view of this fact it is difficult to see how miscegenation is possible!

At best all that can be meant by "race" is the physical characteristics of a group the crack of doom. Apparentof people which, as far as can be determined, are the result of physical and cultural environment. All present-day human beings are the product of miscegenation if

The Anglo-Saxon, Chinese, Or do we really want this African, Russian, South problem to be solved? African, Russian, American, Japanese and "mulattoes.

NO PROOF

There is no proof that miscegenation produces inferior offspring. There can be either inferior or superior off-The true, and if it is true that we are products of miscegenation, existence of mulattoes as though it were a terrible evil and tragedy?

In the only sense in which it dear for the sake of the makes sense miscegenation fathers, "he says in his Epistle has been going on since the has been going on since the time of Adam and will con-

ly it is natural and in keeping with Divine plan.

of miscegenation if we accept American race problem will "race" in this only possible come through natural misceense.'
Every present-day race and similar cases throughout the nationality and the individual ages in all parts of the world. members thereof are the: If so wouldn't miscegenation products of miscegenation. of a legitimate kind be better?

Clandestine miscegenation American are all mongrels if is jeopardizing the salvation climbed into a tree. Jesus we are to admit a variety of looked up and chose him to be human races in the only sense courage a natural solution of in which such a variety can be the problem through miscegheart become generous by the touch of Christ, Zacchaeus mulatto is the product of get all worried and unreasonmiscegenation, we are all ably excited about it as though it were a terrible evil.

NO REASON

What is one reason, scientific or theological, and not based merely on social convention and prevalent prejuish saints whom we see and spring, just as in "pure" race hear in the Gospel. Can we marriages, depending upon dice which are wrong for condemning miscegenation? Nademning miscegenation? Nature doesn't condemn it. God, the Author of nature and the natural law, doesn't condemn it. The Church goes so far as to bless sacramentally such a marriage. Who are we to stand up and in a cock-sure manner condemn miscegena-

I am not advising that we imprudently and publicly encourage miscegenation. I am simply urging that as Catho-lics we get rid of our childish, emotional, and irrational thinking and feeling on the subject and keep our feet on the solid ground of scientific fact and faith. We should consider it poor form to exigns and wonders of Our on Racial Equality) was a Monday Night Forum speaker at Friendship House in July. Banks was convicted in three of Corke (Committee State Committee)

Apparently Southern courts are not interested in the supreme law of the land supposedly intelligent audience of Catholics.

DIFFICULTIES

However justifiable, inter-He was released on bail supplied by CORE and the N.A.A.C.P. These organizations are now appealing the three cases. If the appeals racial marriages in the United down the Body of Jesus from crossed the Mason-Dixon line fail Banks is sentenced uncause of the ordinary rules of justly. One of the three sen- prudence which should govthe virgin tomb, the place of His coming triumph.

The purpose of the tour was tences he must serve is thirty ern decisions in regard to any marriages and have to do with marriages and have to do with

### Negro Convicted of Breaking Laws Which Do Not Exist

member of CORE (Committee state commerce.

Or we might think of Zacchaeus, a wealthy publican who had none of the reserve that usually goes with riches. He wished to see Jesus, ran to test the Morgan Case Decidays on a chain gang.

One shudders at the realization of what can happen to a coidental circumstances rather than any intrinsic evil involved. We Catholics should more (Continued on page 6)

Denis Banks, 20 year old venicles operating in inter-

Mr. Banks told of his ex- Southern states on charges of periences as a participant on breaking Jim Crow laws which do not ex

### THE INNER CIRCLE

In this column we present each month, material that will give the reader a better understanding of the Ideals and Principles of Friendship House.

We begin by printing excerpts from a Dissertation by Rev. Thomas J. Harte, C.SS.R. entitled "Catholic Organizations Promoting Negro-White Race Relations in the U. S. Printed by: The Catholic University of America Press, 1947.

They believe (Friendship House) that their apostolic mission can be accomplished by proclaiming everywhere the doctrines of Christ as taught by the Catholic Church, but particularly by emphasizing in word and deed the social teachings of the Christian

The interracial problem exists, they contend, because men and women neglect or re-fuse to practice all of the Christian virtues in their entirety: it can be eliminated effectively only by the establishment of a truly Christian social order in which all of the Christian virtues are observed.

There is, therefore, constant emphasis on the traditional Catholic teaching regarding social justice and charity, as well as on the practice of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. In keeping with their aim of "win-ning the world for Christ" (Friendship House) has chosen to work for AND WITH (caps ours) the poor, to alleviate their sufferings and disabilities by material assistance and personal services, thus making it possible for them to know and love Christ bet-

ter.

The salvation of individual souls is the ultimate goal towards which all else is directed. Spiritual values are of a higher order than natural values; consequently the welfare of man's soul is of first importance. .

This supernatural approach to social problems differentiates (Friendship House) most from civic or secular agencies doing the same work. IT EXPLAINS THEIR DESIRE TO REMAIN INDEPENDENT OF SUCH AGEN-CIES, even though their independence makes their financial existence so much more precarious. (P. 66 to 68.)

**Supernatural Motives** The ideology of (Friendship House) can be summarized as follows: Fundamentally they are conceived as phases of the Catholic lay apostolate which has, as its objective, the Christianization of the whole world, that is,

by all men on every aspect of human life, religious, social, economic, and political. Very great emphasis is placed on the primacy of the supernatural over the natural, of the spiritual over the material, which applies to the ends, means and motives of their

the complete acceptance of Christ's teaching

social action programs. In other words, they believe that they must be concerned about man's soul as well as his body; that practical altruism must be conditioned by the fact that the one who gives and the one who receives are destined for a future life beyond the grave; that the charity of the worker is fruitful only if it is vitalized by supernatural motives; and that God has placed at their disposal sufficient spiritual means in the Mass, the sacraments, and prayer, through which they can achieve at the same time their own sanctification and the reconstruction of the social order.

Success or failure for their undertaking depends upon the personal holiness of the workers; they must be completely absorbed in the ideal of bringing all men closer to God through their use of supernatural means, and through their practice of the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

Voluntary Poverty

They should be willing to prove their attachment to Christian ideals by living in a state of voluntary poverty. The way of life frequently referred to is IN REALITY THE SUPERNATURAL WAY OF LIFE. The social action of the workers should flow from their own spiritual abundance, a spilling over, as it were, of their knowledge and love

They have entered the field of race relations because they believe that through their work they can preach the doctrines of interracial justice and love, and thus contribute

to the solution of the interracial problem.

Finally, it should be noted that although the approach of (Friendship House) is from first to last intensely spiritual, nevertheless it is essentially a SOCIAL REFORM program directed towards the solution of a SO-CIAL PROBLEM. (P. 71 and 72.)



### Columbus Circle

Harlem-Fourth of July-No fireworks. (The few mild interracialism, the soul, rentones had been used up in May and June.) And we wilting in the white heat afternoon until...Arthur Stabile walked God vs. neighbor. into the FH library. Arthur represents the Catholic Campaigners for Christ. He spoke fiery words—a fire that caught even our smoldering flax up with his white flame-about "fields white for harvest" in Columbus Circle.

You can't imagine a place that looks less like "a field" than Columbus Circle.

Anyone in New York who has anything to say and wants to say it comes here to talkand sometimes to listen: to "crackpots," to agitators, to believers, to gospel-purveyors, to apostles. Why not Catholic apostles?

A Message

As a small group of us whizzed down on the roaring subway, we thought of silent crowds respectfully listening to "a message" (our Catholic one, our interracial one). Of course, one needs a permit to get up on a soapbox (or an orange crate), but one needs no permit to talk, to discuss, with those around.

We got off at 59th street, into this Circle that becomes public "square" Broadway cuts across 8th avenue-57th and 58th streets.

Then we stopped by a speaker on a soapbox with an American flag beside him who said he didn't like to get up in the morning to work. No, it wasn't easy. And dictators were making it harder still. (Later we found he calls him-self "The Idealist," publishes his own paper-has spent time in a concentration camp and sometimes, like tonight, gets knocked down.)

Questions

Then a smiling, good-looking young Apollo was asking "Why does the Catholic Church forbid birth control?" Of course we answered: "Because it is against the natural law." "What is the natural law?"...What is "unnatural" group was separated, each one answering a questioner who

pursued each his own bent: and-ownership, the Spanish inquisition, church-or-churches Bible quotation-love of

One questioning friend of a rather red persuasion finally asked: "Do you mean to say you would become a Communist if they believed in God? No, of course not. I would not become or change to anything. I would remain just what I am, a Catholic. As told you, the Communists have borrowed the best points of Christianity.'

Our excited account of our encounter whetted the argumentative appetite of more FHers, and next week saw another group of us at the Circle. Again the variety of questions: labor-justice-interracialism - science .c a n prove anything. How do I know I have a soul? Didn't the Church approve the Inquisition? Why does the Pope have a gold telephone? Why does the Church own so much property while the poor starve? Would Jesus Christ collect rent?

#### Technique

We appreciated the technique of the Catholic Evidence Guild whose members speak (with permits) at the Circle and three other places around town, though none quite so stimulating as the Circle. Their method is to concentrate on one subject at each talk. The speaker covers all points, and then invites questions but NOT ANY THAT DO NOT RELATE TO THE SUBJECT DISCUSSED: Immaculate Conception One of the Commandments-One of the Articles of the Creed, etc. Even though taunt "Got you stuck! You can't answer!" By sticking to the swer!" By sticking to the point, much ground is covered, and thoroughly so.

Yes..."the fields are white for the harvest..." especially in a Circle that becomes a —supernatural—what IS the square, where Courage can soul? I don't know what you mean. . . ." Then our little the Feeble reach up their the Feeble reach up their hands to Fortitude.

H. Hronek.

### Working Together

We, the staffworkers of Friendship House, have tackled a big problem: That of eradi-cating the heresy of racism and replacing it with Christian Charity so that all men may be one in the Mystical Body of Christ.

We have come to Friendship House burning with desire to do this work. But we have come to realize that were it possible to spend every minute of our time in giving out clothes and meal tickets taking care of children and performing all sorts of corporal and spiritual works of mercy, we would hardly have begun to relieve the misery of Harlem's

Even though we were to spend all our time lecturing and giving out literature, how very few people in New Yark would really understand the hideousness and extent of this hersey.

SO MUCH TO DO

And then when we stop to think how much needs to be done throughout the rest of this country, we would almost become discouraged were it not for the visitors who stop in from St. Louis, Denver, Los Angeles and other places with heartening news about their own or group battles for interracial justice.

These visitors, together with letters we have received on the same subject, have made us realize the need for a column such as this in which all our readers could benefit by the progress made by others as we have, and so perhaps become inspired to join us in this fight for interracial justice. For we believe that it will be only through the combined strength of all American Catholics actively combating the heresy that racism is, that we may hope to bring about a real Christian order of things.

Each month we will print a method which has been tried and found successful with the hope that you may be able to apply it in your own environment. Please let us know of your efforts and how successful they are, for we are eager to hear from all of you.

ACTION IN IOWA

This month, it was called to our attention. a project carried out by two Catholic colleges in Iowa. The students canvassed 2,000 white property owners in Davenport, Iowa, and tabulated their answers to twenty questions on racial matters.

The results showed that fifty-seven percent had no personal acquaintance with Negroes.

Sixty percent would not allow colored families to move into their blocks.

Forty-five percent would not permit membership in their churches. Sixty percent would oppose employment

of Negro teachers in the public schools. Seventy-six percent would object to working under Negro supervision in stores, factories, or offices.

Sixty-two percent do not want the law to restrain an employer from discriminating against a Negro.

Fifty-five percent think that restaurants and hotels should not be open to Negroes. How does all this measure up to Christian standards? Is it possible that Christians are living in a pagan atmosphere and not raising

a voice to combat it? Knowledge of the facts is necessary before reform can begin. Too many people have told me, "There is no prejudice in my town,' and try to confirm this statement with, "You see colored people shopping in all our stores," or, "We have a Negro teacher in our High School." How can these people

do anything constructive if they do not be-

lieve that prejudice exists? AN EYE-OPENER NEEDED

A few statistics, such as the ones compiled by the students at Davenport, would open their eyes to reality. To uncover prejudice is an important step. Once it is recognized it can be eradicated, but as long as it lies hidden, nothing can be done about it.

Any sodality or club could carry plan and help to bring to reality the ideals of a real Christian Brotherhood.

So if you belong to some such organization add your enthusiasm to a campaign uncovering prejudice in your own environment, and follow it up with corrective measures. It is really time Catholics stopped ignoring or overlooking pagan conditions and investigated to find out the real facts.

Catholics in each place can leaven their own Milieu until Christian justice is made visible. So we are counting on you wherever you are and please let us hear from you.

### Harlem's Fishers of M

in the world is within twelve rial difficulties. miles of St. Patrick's Cathedral," says one of our priest friends who is working twenty-four hours a day (he dreams about it at night) gathering in the millions who go to no church at all.

next class and realize they must prove their sincerity. go to no church at all.

'How do you make your converts?" said we.

"The grace of God," was the answer. This grace manifests itself in many ways. Many converts are urged to bring in others as an act of gratitude for the gift of faith. Public processions let the community

Priests visit Harlem Hospitals and are friendly to all. pew with their sponsors be-One of them they call "The God-Man" behind his back false beliefs they have held. and all are very popular. Parish census with innumerable observers who are familiar flights of stairs find new prospects in mixed marriage part- is very interesting.

like to know what the Catholic church teaches? Come to free lectures on . . . nights." help in a lay way by taking possible converts to the priest or by taking care of children

while their mothers go.
In one parish school the Sisters 'of Blessed Sacrament have about 350 children. In the first grade only 50% are 440 converts a year. Fourteen Catholic but by graduation 100% usually are, although they are not received unless one parent is Catholic. There-

interested in becoming a Cath-Please put your name and address in this box.' These people are notified by postcard of classes for con- these people make good Cathverts. Many colored people who have travelled are attracted to the Church by the fact that they found no race prejudice in Catholic coun-Of 1,100 converts in York in 1946 seven tries. New hundred and fifty were from four of the parishes in colored sections.

#### **Instruction Classes**

For instructions converts ing on the parish they're in. Any session missed must be made up in a special Sunday afternoon class. The cate- Campaigners. chumens must come to Mass class attendance.

swers are given. This is very ers also collect Rosaries, one of these racks by sending impressive to the students as they are hungry for the truth which the Church brings headquarters or to a Camdown to them from Christ. It paigner group in various parts the March. Join in and conthe confidence of the of the country. class. Stereopticon slides are used, one parish having 700 per year to cover the cost of Please send us the names of ted us to obtain.

of these.

In every group there are always many spiritual, marital, and general family problems. These must be cleared up by painstaking work on the part of the priests. In each class some are told they are not yet ready for Baptism, either because of lack of under
ment are many. They distrib
per year to cover the cost of mailing and printing for the movement. To them is left the job of supporting with material goods or alms the job of supporting with material goods or alms the various works of Catholic action being actively carried on by Campaigners—PRAYER IS THEIR CHIEF DUTY IN THE MOVEMENT.

Campaigners—Their duties as active workers in the movement are many. They distrib-

"The greatest mission field standing or because of mate- olics?"

This surprises people who have had the idea that the Catholic church snatched people the minute they met a priest. Most of these join the

**Mass Baptisms** 

The fortunate ones now participate in a mass baptism. Many visiting priests come to help. In St. Charles, the largest church in Harlem, whose pastor is the zealous Monsignor McCann, a bishop pre-sides over the baptism in a know there are Catholics church filled with friends and relatives of the candidates. These stand at the end of each This part is new to Catholic only with infant baptism and

Each priest takes care of Signs may be seen in front about six people. All the cere-of the churches, "Would you monies are explained and are performed with the greatest care and reverence. In the next day or two they receive Friendship House workers their First Holy Communion. The people of the parish welcome them at a Communion breakfast. It remains one of the scenes that must have occurred in the early Church.

In St. Charles and St. Aloysius there are an average of ples and the sacraments help years ago both parishes had ficulties and temptations two large churches and which overcrowding, discrimtwo large churches and schools built by white Catholics who had moved away, fore if the child wants to become a Catholic he must convert a parent.

Boxes are found in churches under a card saying, "Are you untersated in heacening a Catholic heart a card saying, a Catholic heart a card saying the parishes are self-supporting.

Go and Watch Them People often ask us, "But do

Only God knows whether people are good Catholics and judgment of others invites similar judgment of God on ourselves. Msgr. McCann's answer was, 'Go and watch them."

At St. Charles there are an average of 500 at daily Mass during Lent. On New Year's Eve the church is thronged for the Holy Hour. Their generosity is so great that Mon-signor says he hasn't had a financial worry in four years. These people are zealous lay apostles, bringing relatives and friends into the Church, some as many as thirty. Gloria Wimpy, one of our artists on the paper, has brought in at least four people in her two years in the Church.

The congregations are anxious to participate and really join in the prayers and sing-ing. When we go into a church full of white people after Harlem we miss that audience participation. If you closed your eyes, you'd hardly know there was a congrega-

tion praying.

Most of these are converts and their appreciation of the great gift of faith as their greatest hope and possession and their love for the priests and sisters who have brought them this gift are an inspiration. Catholic moral princithem to combat the great difination, and poverty force on many. More priests and sis-

from an article by Rev. H. R. Furay, S.J., in the August "Messenger of the Sacred

MABEL C. KNIGHT

### Catholic Campaigners For Christ

The Catholic Campaigners | ute Catholic literature in hosfor Christ movement through- pitals, visit the homes of sick out the United States is conducting a "Campaign For visit fallen away Catholics, Christ." At the present time preach to the man in the must come from 3½ months we are striving to contact all street, operate pamphlet for two lessons a week to 6 those Catholics who are inter- racks, teach Catechism. months for one lesson, depending on the parish they're in. You can help by enrolling actively take part in our work Catholics as supporters of send us a few stamps or a dol-

Supporters are those who every Sunday and this is volunteer to supply one per-checked just as carefully as son (non-Catholic) with Cath-present time over 10 pampholic literature sufficient to let racks are situated in New Priests instruct the classes. give him a thorough knowl-Questions are always in order and absolutely straight an-which is \$2.00. The support-week free. Will you sponsor

because of lack of under- ment are many. They distrib-

Catholics and console them,

Will you help us! Our work must go on. If you cannot send us a few stamps or a dollar bill to further our work. We will acknowledge your do-

of the country.

Their registration fee is 50c. Workers are urgently needed.

Island, N. Y.

### "I Was In Straits"

I have a startling bit of news for you, my friends. In all this vast country of ours, the huge amount of two percent of all the American dollars which are doled out for amusements and public luxury goes to Charity.

What a charming criteria of the American spirit to give. Of that two percent, probably one percent radiates Christ, while the other one percent eradicates taxes, for with their complete lack of understanding of the word Charity, most people give to the poor only that they themselves may get. Get a bigger refund from the income tax bureau.

Mr. Big Business and Mr. Small Business, Mr. Super and Mr. Mediocre, all have much the same attitude towards throwing the poor dog a bone. They apportion a slice of their financial steak to the Community Chest and a few other pet charities, and therefore, forget all about their own personal responsibility towards their fellow human being, their brother in Christ.

#### Obligation

Let's try to remember that each and every one of us has a definite obligation, a definite debt to discharge towards one another. You will probably look up at this point and say: "Well, what is this poor, misguided creature talking about? Would she have me give to every Tom, Dick and Harry that come my way begging for a handout, which he will probably spend for liquor at the nearest saloon?"

So what, dear friend, so What he does with what? your dime or quarter he must pay for and be judged for. You, however, will be judged for why you gave the dime or quarter. If it was given with the love of Christ in mind then dismiss all your qualms about having your money poured down the sinks of iniquity. At the judgment Christ will not ask you what Tom did with your dime or Joe with your quarter, no, He will merely make a statement: "I was hungry and you gave me to eat." "I was in straits and you delivered me."

"I was in straits and you delivered me." All over the world today people are in sad straits; will we deliver them or will we say with a cynical shrug of a well-padded shoulder, "If they haven't got bread let them eat cake." Who will provide the cake? The two per .cent we so generously doled out to the community chest, the Elks, the Catholic Daughters and the Charity Bazaar? No, dear friends, for what we have given will feed so very few, will clothe only a handful, will satisfy only a small part of a world which is dying because of material as well as spiritual needs.

#### Sacrifice

To we who profess the doctrines of Christ, who belong to the family of Christ to the family through participation in His Mystical Body, there is a very special call to come forward and perform the corporal works of mercy. Let's make some personal sacrifices, let's give back to Christ that which He in His Mercy has permit-

Every cent I earn, I earn only because Christ in His mercy has given me the wherewith to carry on, to work, to think, to live in a country which up till now has been untouched by the horror of a devastating war. All that I possess belongs to Him, not to me, therefore, who am I to grudge to my less fortunate brother or sister that which

has been given to me so abundantly. Charity is a personal thing, dear friends. Because love is a personal thing, and love is Charity.

Let's take a good look at ourselves and see how we really are. The poor live in b a d neighborhoods, why should we go there? The poor are dirty and ill clad, why should we associate ourselves with them? The poor live in dark and filthy tenements, why should we take a chance of risking life and limb in climbing rickety stairs or perhaps being caught in some firetrap when there are paid workers to do all these things for us?

The sick are unsightly and make us feel uncomfortable, why should we bother to visit them when there are free clinics and city hospitals as well as parish priests, ministers and rabbis and some Christian societies to discharge our duties for us? We contribute financially, don't we? Isn't that enough?

No, it is not enough. Why? Because Christ said it was not enough. That's the best answer I can think of and I personally account it a very excellent one. Christ went among the poor. He was born among the lowly. He loved and visited the sick and gave of Himself to all who needed Him.

#### Prudence

You are probably muttering by this time that there is such a thing as prudence. People are constantly remembering prudence. Why can't we forget it when it comes to Charity? Seems to me we forgot it very easily when it came to hate and total annihilation of a town in Japan called "Hiroshima." We completely forgot it the day the second atom bomb dropped over there. I say the second bomb, because the first one fell centuries ago in the garden of Eden, when a man named Adam and a woman named Eve sinned, cast prudence to the wind and said "I will not serve." The repercussions of that bomb are still being felt by the entire human race.

Let's stop worrying about the social evils we are going to cause because our hearts are too soft and we keep passing out stipends to those who need them, and beside that keep fighting against overwhelming odds for people who are too poor, or too weak to fight for themselves and Justice.

Let's be prudent with the prudence of Christ. Let's help our neighbor, not only by delegating our charity, but by taking a real personal interest in our brothers and sisters in Christ. Let's not constantly count the cost of our self respect and community standing, but let's count the cost to our heavenly standing and our immortal souls.

Muriel Zimmerman

# Henry W. Edgerton; Lover of Justice

very justice of God, whether dealing with the settlement of controversy, or the punishment of offenders. Such is indeed the work of every justice, the mission of every judicial power." Pope Pius might have added that it is the work of every Justice; every Judge that is. Surely it seems to be the work of Justice Henry W. Edgerton, who continues to recall to his brother judges the voice of justice.

"Appellants (colored) not ask that appellees (white) be forced to sell them houses, he concluded in a minority opinion in a recent restrictive covenant case in Washington, D. C. "Apellees (white) alone have come into court with a claim. They ask the court to take away appellants' (col-ored) homes by force because they are Negroes. There is no other issue in the case."

The majority, however, outvoting him, decided, in view of their standard practice, that they must accede to the request of the white neighbors, and accordingly ordered the Negro families out of their homes, and cancelled the deeds to their property. Rights of An American

To insure stable and orderly life under law, the right of an American to free use and possession of his property is protected by numerous enactments, by the Constitution, and by the great weight of tradition. The Fifth Amendment, in force almost as long as the Constitution itself, says that no one may be deprived of property without due proc-ess of law. Subsequent laws, together with the Fourteenth Amendment, repeat this with specific intent of protecting the rights of Negroes.

The purpose of these laws was obviously that no one should be deprived of property without good reason; that is, unless he had committed some crime; or unless the de-privation were reasonable and necessary, as in the imposition

For courts to hold today that they must honor and bow to the requests of white persons that no Negro ever be permitted to own property or to live in certain areas declared and agreed closed to Negroes by these whites or previous white owners, would seem to be the enshrinement of anarchy. And to maintain that an eviction of a Negro because he is a Negro is consistent with the rule of law seems to reveal a low opinion

### **Established Policy**

But low or high, the opinestablished policy, accepted slums. Such reciprocity is not law, the law of the courts, requires the enforcement of resequal but irrelevant. Because idential segregation pacts. That arbitrary consignment court deprives them of homes of colored families to the least wholesome areas of our cities is, the courts may adperhaps unfortunate; undesirable, but not their direct concern. They imagined possibility that oth-deal in contracts and records ers may suffér similar distheir direct concern. They and deeds, and above all, in crimination because they are the past, and in past decisions.

"Formidable dignity and power of justice, which above every passion and every preconception, must reflect the the acts of a few courageous is that the acts of a few courageous is the conception."

The generally tragic and unformation for it because they are Negroes.

Both the Louisville ordinance and the New Orleans judges stand out the more, as does any bright picture in a dark setting.

Two years ago, in a significant minority opinion, Justice Edgerton pointed out the error of court enforcement or support of racial residential restrictions. Although he did not convince his partners, he made a deep impression on all who follow or are directly affected by restrictive covenants.

Now in a similar opinion, given on May 26, 1947, he demonstrates an earnest study during the intervening period. The present opinion goes much further than anything anyone else has said; it is hard to understand how anyone can remain unconvinced by it.

Although it is presented in technical phrases to meet the wordy objections elsewhere raised, much of it is clear to the layman. Here are pertinent extracts:

#### Extracts of Edgerton's Statement

(Words in parenthesis have been added by way of expla-

The court holds that perpetual deed covenants forbidding sale of homes to Negroes are valid and enforceable by injunction (court order) cancelling sales, evicting Negroes from homes that they have bought, and preventing sales to other Negroes. I think this erroneous for five reasons, each independent of the other

The covenants are void as unreasonable restraints on alienation (transfer). They are void because contrary to public policy, their enforcement by injunction is inequit-Their enforcement by injunction violates the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment. Their enforce-ment by injunction violates the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment. Their enforcement by injunction vio-lates the Civil Rights Act which requires that "All citizens of the United States shall have the same right, in every State and Territory, as is enjoyed by white citizens thereof to inherit, purchase, lease, sell, hold, and convey real and personal property.

#### Reciprocity

It has been contended that enforcement of covenants which exclude a race from a neighborhood does not involve discrimination because it permits reciprocity. This amounts to saying that if Ne-This groes are excluded from decent housing they may retaliion more or less prevails that ate by excluding whites from appellants are Negroes, the which they could keep if they were white.

Discrimination against them because of color is not merely relative but absolute. The white is as irrelevant as the

ordinance which excluded Negroes from white neighborhoods also excluded whites Negro neighborhoods. from Since they undertook to dis-criminate because of race against members of both races they had a formal reciprocity t h a t restrictive covenants lack. This did not reconcile their enforcement with the requirements of due process. (They were thrown out by Supreme Court.)

#### Due Process of Law

Restrictive covenants are non self-executing. This case arises because persons whom they purport to bind have violated them. The white appellants have sold restricted property to the colored appellants. (There were several parties on each side of the case.) The appelles, neighbors not directly involved in the sales, seek to set them aside. For that purpose they necessarily invoke the aid of a court of equity. (A court of equity, as distinguished from a court of law, is traditionally provided with more flexible powers, for the achievement of justice.)

If all persons whom the covenants purport to bind had refused to sell to Negroes, no government action would be involved but only the action of private individuals, and no question of due process of law would arise.

The situation then would be comparable to the refusal of the innkeeper in the Civil Rights Cases to serve Negroes. Even if some landowners had persuaded or hired others not to sell to Negroes, or Negroes not to buy, there would still be only private action, whether legal or illegal, and no due process question. But in this case private means have failed to produce compliance with the covenant and a court has

been asked to enforce it.

Refusing to Vacate

If the colored appellants refuse to vacate the premises in obedience to the court's decree it will be enforced against them through the court's power to punish for contempt; they may be imprisoned or fined, and dispossessed by force if necessary. The action that begins with the decree and ends with its enforcement is obviously direct government action.

The question is whether a court of the United States has the constitutional power to cancel deeds which willing sellers have made to willing buyers, and evict the buyers from the property, because the buyers are Negroes.

judicial decree which would be invalid if it had legislative sanction is not valiwhen private persons acting violate the Act of Congress. without legislative sanction have attempted to impose them for private purposes.

to hold as this court does that lation, it prevents Negroes although no legislature can from purchasing and holding authorize a court, even for a this property. moment, to prevent Negroes A solitary happy aspect of certainty that others will suf- from acquiring and using par- mer property-owner cannot

er of property at a given moment can authorize a court to do so far all time.

Either the due process clauses of the Constitution do not forbid governments to prevent Negroes from acquiring and using particular prop-erty, in which case they do not forbid courts to enforce racial restrictions which statutes have imposed; or these clauses do forbid governments to prevent Negroes from acquiring and using particular property, in which case they forbid courts to enforce racial restrictions which covenants have imposed. Buchanan v. Warley rules out the first alternative. . .

#### The Civil Rights Out

White citizens have, beyond question, the right to purchase the property in suit from willing sellers and to hold it. This court forbids colored citizens to purchase and hold it. It thereby rules that they have no right to do

The court does not say, and it would be a contradiction in terms to say, "Despite the fact that we forbid colored citizens to purchase and hold this property they have a right to do so.

I see no possible escape from the fact that the court's ruling violates not only the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment but also the Civil Rights Act, ... which express-ly provides that "All citizens of the United States shall have the same right, in every State and Territory, as is enjoyed by white citizens thereof to inherit, purchase, lease, sell, hold, and convey real and personal property.

A statute which declares or confers a right means, if it means anything, that courts shall recognize and protect the right. . . Nothing is alleged or found against appellants except their color.

It makes no difference that the court denies the right of Negroes to purchase and hold certain property only and not all the property in the District of Columbia. Much of the land in the District is covered by covenants like those in suit Though these injunctions refer only to appellants' land, denying the right of appellants and other Negroes to buy this land has the practical effect of denying the right of any Negro to buy any land covered by any such cove-

#### Violations

Moreover, the conflict between the Act and the injunctions does not depend upon the fact that the injunctions have a general effect. If a municipal legislature were to ous. pass an ordinance forbidding Negroes to purchase and hold dated by lack of legislative precisely the land in suit, and sanction. . . Such restrictions are not less arbitrary and unreasonable, and not more con-ducive to the general welfare, since such prevention would

I think it quite as plain that the court violates the Act of Congress when, without even It is strangely inconsistent the excuse of municipal legis-

The expressed will of a for- they are unimportant.

ticular property, a mere own- authorize the court to deny a right which the expressed will of a legislature could not authorize it to deny.

Any opinion as to the reasonableness or desirability of preventing Negroes from purchasing and holding this property is irrelevant to the present point. The Constitu-tion and the Civil Rights Act have foreclosed the matter. The right to buy and use anything that whites may buy and use is conferred upon Negroes implicitly by the due process clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments and explicitly by the Civil Rights Act. Of the civil rights so conferred, none is clearer and few are more vital than the right to buy a home and live in it. . .

#### Restraint on Alienation

The underlying principle which operates throughout the field of property law that is freedom to alienate property interests which one may own is essential to the welfare of society. [This assumption rests] in part upon the necessity of maintaining a society controlled primarily by its living members . . . the American Law Institute lists six factors which tend, when present, to make restraints on alienation reasonable and valid . . . 2. the restraint is limited in duration . . . 5. the number of persons to whom alienation is prohibited is small . . .

By these accepted standards, the covenants in suit are clearly unreasonable . . . (2) the restraint is perpetual . . (5) "The number of persons whom alienation is prohibited" is enormous. persons are more than a quarter of the population of the District of Columbia. In respect to the number of possible purchasers as well as the price which some of them are ready to pay, the landlords' market is most severely as well as permanently impaired. No other sort of restraint of any comparable degree of severity has ever been upheld.

#### **Public Policy**

Covenants exclude Negroes from a large fraction-no one knows just how large-of the decent housing in the District of Columbia. Some of it is within the economic reach of some of them. Because it is beyond their legal reach, relatively well-to-do Negroes are compelled to compete for inferior housing in unrestricted areas, and so on down the economic scale. That enforced housing segregation, in such circumstances, increases crowding, squalor, and prices in the areas where Negroes are compelled to live is obvi-

It results in "'doubling up, scandalous housing conditions for Negroes, destroying home life, mounting juvenile delinquency, and other indications of social pathology which are bound to have their contagious influence upon adjoining white areas."

Neither the present nor any previous opinion of this court questions or considers these facts. The judgments appear to rest upon the theory that

JOHN DOEBLE

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#### Vol. 7 120 July-August HARLEM FRIENDSHIP HOUSE NEWS

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### Let Us Make Ready...

"Perfect Thou my goings in Thy paths, that my footsteps be not moved . . ."

This offertory prayer of the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, should become the daily meditation and MOTI-VATION of Catholics thru these, our dark years, of unpeaceful peace!

For as far as eye can see, and ear can hear—the world is headed for another war. Nations cannot get together to shape a stable peace, because they have not invited the Prince of Peace to their Conference table, nor taken His Words as the foundations of their deliberations.

The result, even to the utterly untrained observers, is a slow, relentless chaos moving like a dark, stormy cloud onto the horizon of our lives. Bewildered and uneasy Catholics seem to stand still, fatalistically awaiting the worst . . . but not doing much to avert the allevident catastrophe that is just around the corner.

"What is there to do," some may ask? . . . The offertory prayer answers this clearly. . . . "PERFECT THOU MY GOINGS IN THY PATHS . . . " implores the Church, in the name of all the Faithful. PERFECT . . make perfect. . . . And the first step to perfection is PRAYER, which is also the first and greatest WORK of a Christian soul.

Yes, I know, it all sounds so trite, so familiar. Since early childhood, at home, at school, parents, nuns, brothers, priests have exhorted all of us to PRAY. And lately every Catholic Paper and Magazine has taken up the cry: "Let us Pray . . . Thru Our Lady of Fatima to Christ . . . Let us pray for Peace." So much is being said and written about prayer that it becomes almost

YET PRAY WE MUST . . . NOW AT ONCE, AL-WAYS. PRAY WITH TEARS IN OUR HEARTS, SOULS AND EYES! PRAY THE PRAYER OF SUP-PLICATION, OF ADORATION, OF LOVE. PRAY . . BECAUSE ALONE PRAYER CAN STOP THE ATOMIC WAR THAT DAILY COMES CLOSER AND CLOSER . . . NOTHING ELSE SEEMS TO BE ABLE TO. AND IT SEEMS TO BE ALMOST UPON US.

And having prayed, let us stand fast in our holy Faith so . . . "THAT MY FOOTSTEPS BE NOT MOVED . . . from it. But to stand fast by something or someone . . one must KNOW and love what, or whom, one stands fast for. So let us awaken and take an intelligent appraisal of our Faith. Study it, so as to know it better and love it more . . . for we may have to die for it soon ... who can tell? ... or at least fight for it in a thousand strange and as yet unknown ways. Let us make ready, for this IS the acceptable time. There is so little of it left that we must hurry and fill our lamps with the oil of knowledge and love. . . .

And having prayed and prepared ourselves thru knowledge and love, let us now discard, detach ourselves from all that is unnecessary, superfluous to this, our journey, INTO HIS PATHS. . . . Let us give to those who need it, that which is above OUR NEEDS. Let us clean the attics of our houses, and our souls, and then give even of our necessity. . . . Give to our brothers in Germany, Austria, Europe, Africa, China, India, U.S.A., Canada, for WE ARE OUR BROTHER'S KEEPER.

Let our charity so shine before the world that it may remember THAT CHRISTIANS DO LOVE ONE sion of awakening the conscience of the whole communication of Catholics in many nave been forced to find quarters in already over-crowded "Negro sections," thereby causing illness and in some science of the whole communication of Catholics in many cases even death. ANOTHER.

If we do all these things then indeed will the prayer ticular, to the factors involved of the sixth Sunday after Pentecost be fulfilled in us and . . . "OUR FOOTSTEPS SHALL NOT BE MOVED FROM HIS PATHS. . . . "And beholding this, the Lord on all levels, social, political of Hosts may tie the hands of His justice and untie the and economic as well as rehands of His mercy, allowing it to descend upon us ligious. once more. Then true peace may yet reign on earth. Yes it may . . . BUT LET US PRAY, AND LET US LOVE GREATLY ... NOW AT ONCE ... THIS DAY ... THIS VERY MOMENT.

### Toward A Greater Good

It's a funny world with a lot of funny people in it. Take us, for instance. We are sit-ting up on our farm in Maine. The winter is behind us, our bully-woolies are shed; the robins and orioles are back. The days have taken on a glamour that makes a Disney extravaganza seem an under-statement of nature's glories. Our fishing tackle gets a try-out any old time we care to amble down the road through the pines and white birch and violet clumps. We're going to plant a garden. The seeds are waiting. The man is coming tomorrow to plow.

#### Excuse

Then suddenly something like a hunch (it was probably St. Joseph gently taking our elbow) saying we had reason for going to New York for the summer. Our elbow is joggled every time we glance at the spread of field and garden space and sky around us. There was nothing uncertain about it. We were not to stay on in our paradise.

We never like to be impolite, especially to St. Joseph. So we find excuse for leaving: We need money. New York would be the pay off.

It has never troubled us to need money, but it did trouble us to think of going to New York. We were willing to pick juniper berries. Anything, if only we might have stayed on our place. The answer was, go!

#### Shortage

There is a shortage of rooms in New York. But there is a graver shortage of tolerance for accommodating a Negro woman and a white woman. We used our double-barreled shotgun for that one: Catholic and Interracial. Maybe Friendship House could help us, we were advised.

From the moment we entered Friendship House the thing was beyond us. What was a garden, what was a farm, or even the need for money when this employment agency for Christ was open and willing to accept us.

#### Contrast

The contrast between our pastoral solitude and the overflowing streets of Harlem is not felt in our minds or senses. There is an inner silence and awe over the privilege of sharing life with God's needy. May St. Joseph joggle our elbow severely, if we ever seek to have a garden without the seeds of poverty.

Bermetta Young Leona Lyons.

nity, and of Catholics in parin our racial caste system, and

From "Catholic Organizations Promoting Negro - White Re'ations in the U. S. by Rev. Thomas J. Harte, C.SS.R.



### 'I Have Heard Them Say"

There is a school of complacents in which people deny justice to all for no reason except, "they have heard them say" that Negroes should not be allowed to likely you would glove both equally well for the say." in certain localities. That Negroes are irresponsible and therefore, should not be allowed to hold responsible positions. That the Negro is a robber, this and a robber this form of the negro is a robber the negro is a robber this form of the negro is a robber the negro is a robber this form of t a robber, thief and a rapist. That Negroes require less pay in salary or wages because less is required to supply their needs. That the society of Negroes is offensive because it lowers the dignity of those with whom he associates.

These are only a few of the charges brought against the Negroes by those of this school. We say that these instances of prejudice are sins. They are sins of prejudgment committed against the Mystical Body of Christ.

Have you, our dear brethren of this school of prejudgment, ever paused to examine your conscience, to ascertain whether you were committing a sin, or several sins, when you prejudged others simply on the strength of what you have heard them say?"

By your refusal to allow The frequently repeated Negroes to dwell in phrase in the manifesto, stricted" communities, "rethey "Friendship House has work have been forced to find quar-

Do you love one of your

should not be allowed to live for both are parts of your

We would not bind without reason the fingers of one hand while the fingers of the other hand were allowed the freedom of exercise. Then let us not bind or suppress any member of His Mystical Body.

The Negro does not ask any special favors or considerations. He wants only to be allowed an equal opportunity to live, to work, to pray and to play. He wishes to be judged on merits and qualifications alone. Let us cease to judge others on what we have heard them say.'

Scripture has told us many things about the kingdom that God has prepared for those that love Him, but there has not been recorded even one promise of a "restrictive covenant" in Heaven. So, if we hope to spend eternity in perfect happiness in the Divine presence of Almighty God, whom we do not wish to offend, let us start now to know

THOMAS EVANS

DO YOU HAVE THESE BOOKS

Wouldn't you like to give someone else the same pleasure you had when you read them for the first time? SEND THEM TO FRIENDSHIP HOUSE.

"Diary of a Country Priest," by Bernanos

"Labyrinthine Ways" ("The Power and the Glory"), by Graham Greene.
"Companion to H. G. Wells' Outline of History," by

Belloc. "Slave and Citizen," by Frank Tannenbaum

### Farm Bulletin

two volunteers from the Chicago house, Michael Barrett annual convention in Wausau. and George Clark. George was one of the first visitors to should probably include my-St. Joseph's Farm when it opened two years ago, he draws a delightful comparison between the setup then and our charming, pleasant house with garden and the partially repaired

Mike and George borrowed Mr. Baumann's team (the finest in the county) and leveled the front yard and then hand ploughed the plot for the vegetable garden. It was a break for Jim, who had been clearing the ground by hand, keeping just a patch or so ahead of the girls.

Jane Frohmader, a regis-tered nurse, from the Vet-erans' Hospital at Tomah, Wisconsin, and a registrant for the Summer School, came for a preview the other day and offered to stay on a few days after the school to help with the work.

Also among our visitors was Joe Hillebrand of Toledo, who was introduced to us by our friend Father Weller of Dor-

Visitors Are a Godsend

We have been singularly blessed with the kind who find themselves a project to staff of the many more jobs that have to be done before the place can be fully whipped into shape. Jane, for instance, mowed the lawn-a real problem with our quack grassand Joe repaired and rehung

the garage door.
Sister Helen Angela of St. Margaret's Academy in Minneapolis visited us during of grape juice we drank the May, accompanied by Mrs.

Over the Decoration Day, Nelson Drake of the same city. weekend we had visitors from Chicago: Ann Harrigan and two volunteers from the Chi-

> self; for the past month I have been putting the farm to one of its uses as an auxiliary of the city houses; to wit, a place of convalescence. I have been restored to health and strength after a sudden splurge of surgery, and here do testify that St. Joseph's Farm and its staff do their service both graciously and admirably. My gratitude is indeed profound. It was a joy, too, to have my father-visit us for two days.

But the highlight of all visits-not only of this month, but of all the years of St. Joseph's Farm so far—was the call of our Bishop, Most Rev-erend John P. Treacy. Ac-companied by his secretary, Father James Finucan, he spent an evening with us while he was confirming and ordaining in the neighbor-hood of Marathon. It was a delight to show him around our house and explain the details of Friendship House life. And it warmed our hearts to receive his approval and blessing.

Staff News

Monica and Jim made their first Oblation as Oblates to St. work on and thus relieve the Benedict for Maria Laach staff of the many more jobs while Father Damasus Winzen was here, on his way to St. Joseph, Minnesota. We had the ceremony in St. Mary's Church. That evening in the farmhouse he concocted a Betrothal Ceremony for Jim and me, since none of the available Rituals provided an official text. In liberal toasts



brate a memorable day.

Summer School Prepares

The barn roof is almost on. It is a real Blessed-Mother blue and stands out with lovely intensity in the green Wis-consin landscape. During the first few days that the men were putting it up, we made thousands of trips to the back windows of the house to see it-thank goodness the men considerately began on this

We were terribly disappointed that plans for a weekend to be spent here by a group of students from Mercy High School in Milwaukee could not be carried out. had arranged for Father Gregory O'Brien, O.M.I., and some of the volunteers from Chicago FH to be here and, together with our staff to present our outline of the Doctrine of the Mystical Body and its application to Interracial

But until the barn is completed we can accommodate only fifteen students, and to hire a bus for only that number would have been an exorbitant expense for the students. But the plan is on ice for next year, both at Mercy and here, and we hope that other schools will soon be including such ventures in their extra-curricular programs.

Compensation

To compensate for that disappointment, however, the plans for this year indicate that our F. H. Summer School for Catholic Interracial Techniques is a burgeoning branch our Apostolate. **Besides** handling the heavy jobs of both house and garden, Jim has managed to outline a fine program for the school, and reports that the first term registrations are not complete, but that we will have a full house for the second term.

Kathie, one of whose jobs is mending and minding linens,

Next issue we'll report how potenate. it goes with a houseful of stu-

there. Because of the confusion which reigned between eviction notice and the actual Washington and Bob McNealy getting settled at 4233 Indiana,

the children's toys and what not have all been at Sheil House, upstairs and down-

In spite of the big scurry, the Casita's youth program carries on. The Brownies had two outings at Riverview and Jackson Park. At Riverview they rode on every ride and participated with great spirit in interracial games on the lawn. The Cub Scouts have been getting around too. They have been to the zoo, ridden ponies in the park and toured

a coal mine in a museum.

The Boys' and Girls' Clubs have been busy with meetings, election of officers, and picnic swims. These teenagers still found time to help FH move. The girls packed and the boys lifted.

The Minnesota quartet (four girls from that state) and two boys from Washington, D. C., and New Mexico, are on hand to help with the Vacational School program. They are visiting volunteers and are here to work for nothing this summer, with God as their boss. The girls are: Virginia Lowe from St. mer to all.

At last! We have arrived at our new quarters. Minn: Tony Hendricks and Up until a few days ago the Casita of Chicago Friendship House has been half here, half from New Mexico.

The Casita Reports

By MARY (GENI) GALLOWAY

After Orientation Week (an introductory course where they are learning about FH and how to run recreation programs) they will be at work full time in the Casita.

The Vacation School runs from July 9 to August 8. Its agenda includes crafts, re!igion, playground programs, weekly swimming, stunts, games, songs, skits, plays and stories. The religion program, taught by Sister Teresita and Annunciata, will be built on the Ten Commandments. There will be trips, too, complete with peanut hunts and nature trails.

Ten boys and twenty girls are all signed up to go to camp during July. Now all we need is the money to send them there. Donations large and small are acceptable. Or, if you would like to donate a \$15 scholarship to send a child to camp, make a check payable

> Friendship House, 4233 S. Indiana Avenue, Chicago 15, Illinois.

## Miscegenation

(Continued from page 1)
anxiously frown upon and worry about marriages involving mixed religion than then the Church will not allow to be blessed, whereas we the Sacrament of His love? would some of us raise our hands in holy horror if we were asked to assist at a mar- lic faith and culture we find riage between two members the least social discrimination of the gens electa, one black on the score of race and the and the other white.

Nearly every day socially prominent and wealthy Catholic parents with the cooperation of their pastors allow their daughters to marry unbaptized and even irreligious men who are not heirs to heaven nor fit to be fathers of Catholic children, but who would gasp in dismay if one of their daughters were even to hint at marrying a black man who as a Catholic is crown prince to God's very throne.

SOCIAL RECOGNITION

Those who condemn miscegenation condemn social intermingling between the sorepresentatives, then there is in forgiving ours. God's infinite Mercy has granted the remission of all the sins of all the world in the Precious Blood of Our Lord, which descends upon those who conscends upon those who confess that they have shed it by sinning, and who repent.

Jew and Gentile stand in a saints and angels when forgiving ours. God's infinite Mercy has granted the finite Mercy has granted the chirch in the later that I waited so long. It will be the joy of the Church in the later days, when the charity of fess that they have shed it by sinning, and who repent.

Jew and Gentile stand in a saints and angels when considered to the ultimate in social recognition, namely that in my own veins was some of their "Negro" blood. Suppose I could have proved this last point, would it have meant that I was less a man, less a Cathotof frace, more intimate than the social union between husand and and wife. And God's critical stand in a sinning will lead to the ultimate in social recognition, namely that in my own veins was some of their "Negro" blood. Suppose I could have proved this last point, would it have meant that I was less a man, less a Cathotof frace, more intimate than the social union between husand and and wife. And God's critical standing will lead to the ultimate in social recognition, namely that in my own veins was some of their "Negro" blood. Suppose I could have proved this last point, would it have meant that I was less a man, less a Cathotof frace, more intimate than the social union between husand and and wife. And God's critical standing will lead to the ultimate in social recognition, namely that in my own veins was some of their "Negro" blood. Suppose I could have proved this last point, would it have meant that I was less a man, less a Cathotof frace, more intimate than the social union between husand and suppose I could have proved this last point, was less a man, less a Cathotof frace, more intimate in social recognition, namely that in my own to the ultimate in social recognition, a valiantly counts the piles of called races. They fear that we'll have something to and and wife. And God's cridined with me? common sorrow under the people think it cannot be far cross and receive a common off. But we can anticipate school breakfasts. Time flits infinitely more exacting than that millions of Americans that of the greatest earthly have "Negro" blood in their

nomecoming for our Jewish of common resurrection in the Risen Christ Who has "made both one, breaking down the middle wall of partition, and Who has reconciled both to line that the love of in the Church.

It goes with a houseful of students eagerly grappling with friends. We can do this by dents eagerly grappling with friends. We can do this by dents eagerly grappling with facts and figures of interracial indoctrination and enjoying an integrated Catholic vacation.

Yet his only criterion is that the individual be in the state of grace and a member of the Mystical Body of His so in ply because that is the vogue among American white people in general?

withhold our miserable little mixed race. Such are forbid-den by the Church. Yet how companying amenities from many of us without a qualm one to whom the God of inseek a dispensation and assist finite majesty and splendor at such marriages, which even grants it to the extreme even of a most intimate union in

> May this not explain why in countries of a truly Cathomost miscegenation of a legitimate nature?

A REGRET

I remember how personally delighted I was a few years ago when I thought I had discovered some Negro bloodrelatives in Detroit who had the same name as mine. I proved with certainty that they were descendants of former slaves of my family (which I admit with shame the family used to own unjustly) and I regretted that I could not prove the probable fact that they were legitimate blood-relatives.

I didn't dare hope for what would have pleased me much more, namely that in my own

veins without ever knowing it. Yet His only criterion is Why should our thinking on

### Looking at Jews

(Continued from page 1)

prayed for them from the self.' Cross: "Father, forgive them, Fe for they know not what they do"—could His prayer go un-Few have seen that Christ is heard?

Crucifixion is indeed the of their hope. But is it not darkest blot on Jewish also our sins, our failure to history, but we should be walk in the foot-steps of hypocrites if their guilt did Christ while calling ourselves not remind us of our own. By Christians, which dims their our sins all of us, all mankind view? of all ages, have cooperated in the Crucifixion of Our Lord. Each sin we commit proves should have inflicted upon Jesus, had we been then and

There is no greater diffi-culty in God's forgiving the sins of the Jews, who were our representatives, then there is

salvation poured forth from some of its joy, if we do our and flithers. the five Wounds they have inutmost to hasten the day of Next issue flicted together. They share a homecoming for our Jewish

God in one body by the Cross, to the Romans. Our Lord killing the enmittes in Him-

Few Jews, however, real-The share of Jews in the Israel's King, the center of their history, the fulfillment

#### Resurrection

At all events, we know that when all other nations have here and now the torture we heard the Gospel, the Jewish people will be converted to Christ. Saint Paul says that this will be like a resurrection from the dead for the whole world.

It will be the delight of saints and angels when

Jew and Gentile stand in a Perhaps we are not destined to see this day, though many

### CHICAGO F. H. BULLETIN

By MARY CLINCH

Readers of this column will remember that in April we recalled St. Basil's advice that we should "ask of God big things." We took the Saint at his word and asked for a building near the one we were being evicted from. We specified that we wanted a much larger place, that could house our expanding children's and teenager's programs. We said we could use additional space for clothing room and some ground around the house as a playground.

Now, hold on! We received, + from God's bounty, just ex-actly that. Finding all this in Geni did what was necessary Chicago's overcrowded Black Belt was a miracle.

But it was only the major miracle. There were many more. Our volunteers and got together friends and formed a building fund committee. The committee raised \$10,000. With that plus the loans we secured we were able to pay for our new home. Blessed Martin had done it again.

#### Free Advice

Blessed Martin has a way of sending us just the right people in the nick of time,

There was the Negro real estate man who gave us free advice on the millions of details involved in a real estate transaction. He was followed by a contractor who not only looked over our building and assured us it was shipshape, but also is donating some supplies and labor for some of the vitally needed repairs.

It is impossible to tell here of all the wonderful people Martin has gotten to help us. If there were a list of their names it would comprise the names of all of you, our faithful friends. There would be no Friendship House without

#### Vacation School,

Negro children are "playing" on Indiana avenue.

Yes, we have to get that vacation school for the kids going, but quick. So how? This place has no lights, ineffective plumbing, a roof that leaks, and the filth ac-cumulated through years.

Now, that last item is being taken care of, just as the moving job was, by the staff and volunteers, by means of elbow grease. When we grease. moved Father DeRuntz got a cattle truck somewhere and with five men volunteers hauled over the well-labeled cartons of books and library equipment and most of the office supplies. The next day, in typical FH style, the Moth-Club gave a benefit chicken dinner for us in the old place. Friendship House is the only place where this could happen. On the final moving day, when everything but the table was gone, Teevy somehow prepared a delicious lunch which we ate sitting on

Monday morning we were tually here. Old clothes actually here. Sleeves were were put on. rolled up. We were ready to make war on the terrible mess that this building is in. We did not have enough pails, mops and brushes. We begged, borrowed and even bought them with money from our slim treasury. But we still had no water. That plumbing! A kind neighbor let us get water from his house and a bucket brigade was formed.

Strong Stomach
The stench was pretty bad in places. There were some dead rats that had to be carried away. Geni Galloway claimed she had a strong stomach and would take care of them. Strong men looked won't you?

After that we got busy with lime, soap and disinfectant.

All kinds of people came to our aid. I bumped into a girl I had never seen before. She was wearing overalls and an old shirt and was bending over a bath tub. She was getting close to the surface, having scraped off four layers.

Still it was business as usual at Friendship House. That night we held our week-Monday night forum. There was no electric light, of course. Passersby blinked and wondered when they saw a group of colored and white sitting in dim candle light in an apparently vacant store.

#### Visiting Volunteers

Meanwhile our five new visiting volunteers had begun to the paper to write this col-arrive. They are young umn, and what is more imporarrive. They are young people who will live and work with us for the summer. Trains had to be met, messages taken, directions given. A certain amount of our everyday work had to go on. Moments had to be snatched to write letters, make phone calls, keep records, give information.

Without gas or kitchen facilities the eight staff workers and five visiting volunteers had to take their meals in a restaurant. And the FH pocketbook got flatter and me! in the erously allowed us to use the high school cafeteria until we have our own kitchen. We rounded up a kitchen crew to help Teevy. They are holding forth there now and the thirteen of us are getting our three squares a day.

#### Our Needs

plumber came (thank God) and got the water turned on after we had been here five days. He had to dig five feet into our pocket handkerchief front yard. The pipes and other plumbing essentials are ready to collapse at any moment. That means a complete new set must be bought. That new roof will come to \$500, and the electrical work will be \$500. Then there is an awful lot of carpentering to be done and we need at least \$1,000 worth of paint. Then there are the loans to pay back, etc.

he should knock on your door ton Place, Chicago 10, Illinois and say: "Psst, Friendship to Madonna House, Comber-House needs money and mere, Ontario, Canada. Yes,

Oh, yes, if you hear of any and writing books.



For the first time since the original publication of Friend-ship House News I did not write for the June issue. But then how could I? Have you ever tried to unpack twentythree crates of furniture and personal belongings, while planting an orchard of apple meals a day for a hungry hus-band and a hungrier Flewy? (Flewy is Miss Grace Flewwelling, FH pioneer Staff Worker, who had joined me in this new Friendship House Canadian venture). If you have—you are a better man than I!

I can find the typewriter and tant, the time. For Milky is happily living in his new pen. The vegetables are just as happily growing in their beds, and the house looks like a house should, not like something an atomic bomb just missed.

To all the subscribers of the Outer Circle Letter, go my deepest apologies for having missed for the reasons stated above, two issues of the Letters-May and June, so help me! The July Letter will be in the mail, if Flewie and I have to type each separately way into the night. I also want to thank the two hundred new subscribers who asked to be put on its mailing list.

From Mother Marie Emerantia of Sion (Our Lady of Sion Convent P. O. Box 49, Jerusalem, Palestine) comes a Many Southern seminarians pitiful letter, asking for feel very strongly the terrible poverty of Palestinians. It is not only poverty, it is sheer stark misery ... and we have Can you?

Please note the changes of address of Friendship House, Chicago (yes, they bought that house at long last) from 309 East 43 Street, Chicago 15, Illinois to 4233 South Indiana It is Blessed Martin's job to get all this money for FH. If my address from 8 West Wal-

## Harlem Reporter

One of our dreams came true when we arranged for a colored staffworker to live in a white section of New York. Our outpost of Friendship House is an artist's studio at 29 Cornelia Street. Leona Lyons and Bermetta Young can live down there more cheaply than we could get two rooms in Harlem and then we have the wonderful roof for our Outer Circle Meetings. The cool breeze is delightful after a hot day in Harlem.

#### Our Visitors

many other countries. in this country among the colored.

A colored visitor told us of year. taking five colored friends on it. whom he had interested in the Church into a cathedral, not a southern one, by the way. A All things come to an end, it elderly white woman came up is said. And this chaos of ours to him after the Mass which is no exception. At long last included a sermon of Christian charity was over. She said to him, "What are you doing here?'

He said, "What are you doing here?" Said she, "This is my church. You have your own church. Why don't you go to it?"

gathering. His friends, five colored women, were very frightened and had told him something like this would happen, but he assured them it would not. So Mr. Anderson, who is a dignified high school teacher, thought "this is pretty hard nut to crack."

Then he drew himself up and said: "Now, Madam, at your age do you think it is in Church?" She just flew out of the church. But his colored friends have never become Catholics. "A man's enemies are those of his own household."

#### News from the South

money and clothing, for she evil of race prejudice in its says "You have no idea of the injury to the members of the Mystical Body of Christ. One said, "I feel the Church shou'd concentrate on the colored." to feed and clothe more than It is certainly the thing to do 70 of them .. could you help in case the white object to the us?" Can you?

colored coming into the is had by all. This time colored coming into the Church. Such people are obviously guilty of the heresy of racism and the attitude is utterly abhorrent to Christian

In one school in the South the boys are willing to accept colored roommates and they are working to change the law which forbids colored and white to go to the same school.

The hierarchy has come out strongly and practically equipment in the worst way if it is to continue its work Eddie is with me, so many against segregation. In New people asked in their letter if Orleans no colored person had and keep up the fight for interracial justice," you won't turn him away will you?

Orleans no colored person had ever appeared on the stage of the Municipal Auditorium until Archbishop Rummel obtained it for a religious serv- now just a wonderful mem-

#### Catholic Hospitality Needed

Visitors pour in from all Friendship House finally over the United States and got some publicity in PM when they showed a picture Belgian missionary after 16 of about fifteen white teenyears in China says the col- agers from Quincy, Massachuplanting an orchard of apple trees, a quarter of an acre vegetable garden, attending to a six-week's old pig nick-named MILKY? And all the same time try to produce three meals a day for a hungry husband and a hungrier Flewy? our colored children as this Congregational parish did last We must get to work

#### Harlem Volunteers

Our first nighter performance of that scintillating, sparkling comedy operettathe "B's V's"-was received with great acclaim here in Harlem. We played to a full house and a very appreciative audience. Course they may have been a bit prejudiced, but we think the applause By this time a crowd was and laughter was most sincere.

Our Brownies surpassed themselves with several choral numbers and then little Louise Miller brought the audience to their feet with her rendition of "Shoo Fly Pie." Little Willa Mae Lowery was forced to give us an encore of her piano rendition of "Listen to the Mocking Bird," and the St. Mark's Trio, consisting of quite the thing to accost men three of our very talented little ladies, sang for us. The volunteers then gave out with that mighty comic opera hit produced by Sheila McGill and directed by her, the "B's

> On the 27th of June we held a party and entertainment for the Mothers' Club. It was wonderful having the ladies with us and for once we made them sit down while we waited on them. You know every time the volunteers and mothproved to be no exception. We did a repeat performance of the "B's V's" and besides that the ladies entertained us with some well rendered spirituals and a few solos.

> That night, too, we made a wonderful discovery. ("Talent scouts perk up ears.") Bill Battle, one of the friends of F. H., showed up and sang in a very beautiful baritone "Stout Hearted Men." He promised more next time. We are all looking forward to

Our trip to Graymoor is Oh, yes, if you hear of any good sound furniture that we could use in our office and library or children's, scouts' and teenagers' rooms, and if it is going a-begging, keep us in mind. We could also use things like craft equipment, toys, hundreds of good, sturdy chairs (preferably the folding kind), and a big out-size stove.

A long-lost relative of mine turned up in a hospital for d is placed persons in the turned up in a hospital for displaced persons in the turned up in a hospital for displaced persons in the turned up in a hospital for displaced up in a hospital for a religious service and had the Xavier University choir sing there.

In St. Louis the Municipal League had refused to allow mixed teams from Catholic schools to participate, so Archibishop Ritter drew out the league. Such things are tre-moduled up in a hospital for displaced up in a hospita

# Searching For The Truth

A Negro convert finds the doctrine, if not always the practice,

of the Brotherhood of Man.

what the phraseology. How can I determine the exact moment I became a Catholic?

morning and proclaim, "To-day I am an artist?" The day the determinant. It goes back much further than that. Back to the hours spent in trying to capture a truth and transfer it to canvas. It embraces endless hours of eliminating glaring colors and striving to achieve harmony.

So it must have been with me, when during my child-hood I attended the Methodist Sunday School, which was my father's faith. This church was nearer our home in Montgomery, Alabama, and therefore more convenient for us. Later I often went to the Baptist church, which was my mother's faith.

I know now that during these years I was troubled with a feeling of disloyalty first to one parent then to the other. I may in time have overcome this, had it not been that in either church I was baffled by a wall of emotionalism through which it was impossible for me to pass to vard spiritual growth.

For days after listening to a Jonathan Edwards-esque sermon I would go about in dazed despair. It was not that I discredited either the magnitude of man's sin, or his need for, and the certainty of, punishment. But it was that I needed to know that God is merciful. So my search be-

#### Visits

Over a period of years, visother Protestant churches almost convinced me that I had found the right one. Almost-but never completely. Then one Sunday I asked a neighbor if I might go to Mass with her. I remember that it was early spring. The leaves were new and the sun-"light was soft with all the promise of the new season. I was filled with a strange excitement: I was going to Mass.

"You need not try to follow the ritual if you'd rather not," my friend wisely remembered to tell me.

New York 30, N. Y.

When did you become a church. About the third seat door always open, and go in. Catholic? That is a question from the rear. From so far The drama of finding myself I am often asked. Or perhaps away the movements of the it is varied a bit: Why did priest at the altar were like ones. To kneel in intimate some vague pantomime. My prayer before Saint Anthony. always nonplussed no matter far away to see the beauty of many occasions that he had the chalice and the vestments, Can a painter awaken one when it was elevated. Can a painter awaken one there was a neat little card there was a neat little card and to actually see the Host back and thank him. day I am an artist?" The day on the back of the pew in front of us: "This section reserved for colored."

Yet somehow I was able to see beyond that little card. For me it did not exist. And at the end of the service when everyone knelt, I slipped from my seat to my knees. At last I had found the Church.

That night at home, I filled pages of a notebook with my impressions. I called it "A Protestant At High Mass." It was difficult to remember all that I wrote, but I do recall some mention of the fount of Holy Water at the door. I had put my hand in, and clumsily tried to make the sign of the cross. As we walked down the street I noticed that a drop, like a very precious pearl, still clung to the tip of my finger. It seemed that I had touched some tangible assurance of all I had experienced.

Although I fix that Sunday and that Mass as a point of arrival, a realization of har-mony, I know that the Protestant had become Catholic long before, or had always been.

#### Happy

My mother offered no objection when I told her that I wanted to take instructions. that for me was right. I know affiliation.

At the time of my entry into the church there seemed nothmy life. Socially, activities such as dancing and card parties, were countenanced and activities in themselves were unimportant.

The eventfulness and drama that would seem not worth recording. At the end of a We sat in the back of the long distracting day, to walk

by the nearby church, find the in company with God's chosen answered my prayer. To go Communion

This intimate communion with the saints was one of the first privileges I felt on be-coming a Catholic. So that in retrospect, I am inclined to believe that I entered the church because of this or that spiritual privilege I now enjoy. And yet, I know that this is not true. It seems, also that I knew far too little about the church to have had any real excuse for joining. I can only say I found the true Church

because I was seeking for it. When I meet with rejection and open hostility from my fellowmen; when within the Catholic Church I find those polite barriers which do exist, still I can never approach the communion rail and receive the Host without being certain that, before God, I am accepted as one in the membership with Christ.

trine, if not always the practice, of Brotherhood.

LEONA LYONS.

### FRIENDSHIP HOUSE DOWN TOWN

Are you spending your summer in New York? Well, let's enjoy meeting some of the great people in the apos-tolate every other Sunday evening at 29 Cornelia Street, Apt. 28 at 8 P. M. It will be held on the roof if the weather permits.

August 10-"OLD PRINCIPLES AND THE NEW OR-Vincent McNabb, OP. Discussed by Mr. JOHN BRACKEN.

August 24 — "KRISTIN LAVRANSDATTER" Sigrid Undset. Discussed by Mr. ARTHUR SHEEHAN.
September 7—"FRIENDSHIP HOUSE" Catherine de

Hueck. Discussed by Mr. EMMANUEL A. ROMERO.
September 21 — "MARRIAGE" by Dr. Dietrich Von
Hildebrand. Discussed by Dr. DIETRICH VON HILDE-BRAND.

October 5; 7:30 - REGULAR OUTER CIRCLE, Sheed and Ward, 63 Fifth Avenue.

Take the Seventh Avenue train to Christopher Street and Sheridan Square. Walk South to Bleecker Street and then left to Cornelia Street.

### Who's Converting Whom?

By TED LEBERTHON

I'm really just thinking out up with conceit? Isn't the reloud. . . .

Friendship House to someone, he or she will ask: "What do they do at Friendship House, convert Negroes to Catholicism? Or try to convert them?"

Maybe I should just say yes

and let it go at that.

Of course "they" refers to the Friendship House staff. Perhaps every staff member, like every Catholic for that Only in the Catholic Church matter, should be trying to have I found the positive doc- convert everyone he or she meets, be that person white, yellow, red, brown or black.

But isn't that a hazardous Staffworker mission, that could be bound

lationship between the It's this way: every once in Friendship House staff workwhile, when I mention er and the swarming Negro populations of New York and Chicago a matter, rather, of mutual or reciprocal conversion?

To convert is to change, transform, transmute in the direction of a new conviction as to the meaning of life, history and the individual, using convert here as a transitive verb. But who's converting whom?

If one understands conversion as gradual, the Friendship House staff worker is being converted to an ever deepening Catholic Christian-ity by the Negroes he or she contacts, although most of them are Protestant Christians. In any relationship of love-at any level of loveboth parties are changed, are being slowly converted towards a new personality.

The white Catholic staff worker is often made more Catholic, more Christian, by the humbling example of the Negro Protestant as well as the Negro Catholic.

Interracial friendships deepen both parties to them. They create a beauty of spirit that is a leaven to transform, in time, our society, to dissolve differences as the sun makes clouds vanish. Here is no condescension. In most of these contacts between Negro and white, nothing is said of religion in any formal sense. When human beings really love one another silence is most eloquent. No word need be spoken, because the Word is in their eyes.

Wherever there is love there is Christ, and everyone participating in it is changed, transformed, converted, in some degree.

There's lots of fun at Friendship House. Lots of waggishness. Lots of joy. every moment. Not only Negoes. Everyone.

The Street Apostolate

By STANLEY VISHNEWSKI
The Friendship H o u s e fifty more distributors to Street Apostolate got under have effectively covered the way last month when Stan rally. But despite the fact Tyburcy, Joe McGowan, Wal-On the contrary, she was ter Melfi a visiting volunteer bered us we took up our pohappy that I had found a faith from Washington and yours sitions and started handing truly took a bundle of papers out copies of FH News. that she had been worried to distribute at the antithat I had reached the age of Lynching Rally which was 24, without definite spiritual held at Madison Square Garden

Into the subway plunged with our load of ing dramatic taking place in Friendship House News and we made it a point to leave copies on the seats. It is always good to take a bundle even sponsored by the Cath-olic Church. Whereas, they had been forbidden by the Protestant denominations which I had known. But these prised at the tremendous amount of good that this apostolate accomplishes.

It seems that everyone was have been in the odd moments out distributing papers when we got to Madison Square Garden. Every available street corner was taken up by one or two Marxists who were distributing their literature. It was good that we were there to prove with our literature that the Church is interested in the Negro people.

**Need Distributors** We could have used at least union?

It was a little difficult handing out papers as the police anticipating trouble kept us moving up and down the block. But despite this handicap we managed to distribute all our copies.

I got engaged in a conversation with a young Marxist and we talked about the Church for a while. He tried to point out that he was not opposed to the Church but only to the political power. He was an oddity for a Marxist as he was the first one I had met who claimed to have read the Encyclicals.

Walking away from the rally we were gratified to find that though the street was covered with Marxist literature only a few copies of FH News had been thrown away.

Can we count on your help to distribute FH News? Why not write for a bundle to sell Everyone's being converted at to your school, club, shop or

From Our Pamphlet Rack ABOUT FRIENDSHIP HOUSE Friendship House

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	Friendship House comes to Chicago—	
	Ann Harrigan	.5
	Pardon me, but did you say Friendship House?	.5
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